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## House of Representatives

The House met at noon.

The Reverend Stephen J. Rossetti, President, St. Luke Institute, Silver Spring, Maryland, offered the following prayer:

Good and gracious God, we gather in a time of challenge. We labor long and hard for peace, but continue to be visited by war. We work hard for unity, but continue to be plagued with conflict and division. We strive for charity among sisters and brothers, but experience so much hatred in our world.

Give us the grace to know that it is You who are the source of our unity and our peace, You who are the one God, living and true. It is You who unites us.

Bring peace to our world, peace to our families, and peace to our hearts. Bind us together in harmony across the divisions and aisles of life. Make us one in unity and love.

And when we have finally looked upon the face of unity, the face of charity, and the face of peace, it will be Your beautiful face we have gazed upon.

We make this prayer in God's name. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 5 1-minute speeches on each side.

### PRESIDENT BUSH PROMOTES JOB GROWTH

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today The New York Times reported that employment had grown for 13 consecutive months. This reflects the impact of President Bush's economic plan for tax cuts to revive the economy by people investing their own money.

President Bush came to office in a recession, and the economy lost 1 million jobs due to the terrorist attacks of September 11. Despite this, the President helped create nearly 2 million new jobs.

The gross domestic product has been growing faster than in 20 years. Productivity has grown faster than in 20 years.

As a former real estate attorney, I am happy to see construction spending the highest ever, over \$1 trillion, creating wonderful job opportunities.

In contrast, JOHN KERRY last night proposed tax increases, which sounded like an exclusive group, but in fact, over 80 percent of the Kerry tax increases would be on small businesses which create the most jobs.

All Americans can take pride in our economy that is improving under the leadership of President Bush.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will always remember September 11.

### NEW ECONOMIC POLICY FOR AMERICA

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is official. President Bush will be the first President since Herbert Hoover to face reelection with fewer people working than when he started.

Yesterday, the Labor Department issued its last update on job creation before the elections. The stock market dropped sharply, reacting to the job report that raised significant doubts about the economy's strength under President Bush.

Most economists agree that Bush's tax cuts failed to stimulate the economy because they overwhelmingly favored very wealthy households. Mr. Speaker, 1.6 million private sector jobs have been lost since President Bush entered office. Economists estimate that the Nation needs to add roughly 150,000 jobs a month to keep pace with the growth in the workforce, and we need to add many more than that to make up for the ground that has been lost under President Bush. Since July, the economy has added only, on the average, 103,000 jobs a month.

Mr. Speaker, clearly, there is a need for a change in economic policy here in Washington, which can only occur with a new President, JOHN KERRY.

### PRESIDENT FATED TO STRIKE OUT

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the President stepped up to the plate last night and, Strike 2, the President swung right through on an easy pitch. It was not a fast ball or a curve or a slider or a sinker. It was ordinary Americans pitching the truth to the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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